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7-22-03

Attorney Docket No: 13761-0726-US1

**Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8):**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to the attention of Group Art Unit 1652 (703) 872-9307

Dated: July 18, 2003

Name of Person Certifying:

Printed Name: Peggy Nichols

Peggy Nichols

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Stallcup et al	Assignee:	USC
Serial No:	09/464,377	Examiner:	Prouty, Rebecca
Filing Date:	December 15, 1999	Group Art Unit:	1652
Title:	REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION BY PROTEIN METHYLATION		

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION APPLICATION**

Sir:

On December 19, 2002, a Notice of Appeal and payment of the fee was submitted by Applicants in connection with the above-identified application. Accordingly, the Brief on Appeal or other action was due on or before February 19, 2003. Enclosed herewith is a Petition for a Five Month Extension of Time and authorization to pay the fee due to the undersigned's deposit account, thereby extending the deadline to file the brief or take other action to July 19, 2003. Accordingly, the filing of this RCE and Preliminary Amendment are timely filed.

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application (as filed as a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) application, consideration of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested.